

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BELGRA 03193 241717Z
ACTION PM-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EA-10 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00
SP-02 MCE-00 /040 W
-----041199 242336Z /65
R 241020Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6375
INFO DIA WASHDC

S E C R E T BELGRADE 3193

NOFORN

DIA FOR RSS-2 AND AH-4

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: MPOL
SUBJ: EXERCISE BEREZINA

1. DEFENSE ATTACHE OFFICE HAS BEEN ATTEMPTING TO OBTAIN
RELEASE OF PORTIONS OF A REPORT OF EXERCISE BEREZINA, A SOVIET
MILITARY EXERCISE HELD IN THE USSR IN FEB 78, TO THE PRC MILITARY
ATTACHE IN BELGRADE. REPORT WAS COMPILED BY TWO US MILITARY
OBSERVERS BASED UPON THEIR PERSONAL OBSERVATION OF THE EXERCISE,
WHICH WAS ALSO WITNESSED BY A NUMBER OF OTHER OBSERVERS FROM CSCE
SIGNATORY COUNTRIES. PRC MILITARY ATTACHES WERE NOT INVITED.
SINCE REPORT WAS BASED UPON PERSONAL OBSERVATION, DATT IN
RESPONSE TO QUERY BY PRC ATTACHE, TOLD HIM HE BELIEVED REPORT COULD
BE MADE AVAILABLE, BUT WOULD HAVE TO CLEAR IT WITH HEADQUARTERS.

2. DAO MOSCOW, WHERE REPORT WAS COMPILED, OFFERED NO OBJECTION
TO RELEASE OF PORTION REQUESTED BY DAO BELGRADE, BUT AS POINTED
OUT BY DIA, NATIONAL DISCLOSURE POLICY PROHIBITS RELEASE OF
ANY CLASSIFIED MILITARY INFORMATION TO THE PRC. DIA IS WILLING TO
REQUEST AN EXCEPTION TO THIS POLICY IF DAO AND EMBASSY BELIEVE
IT IS WARRANTED.

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3. EMBASSY STRONGLY SUPPORTS THE REQUEST FOR EXCEPTION. DAO HERE
HAS BEEN SUCCESSFUL IN ESTABLISHING GOOD RELATIONS WITH THE PRC
MILITARY ATTACHES; THEY HAVE, FOR EXAMPLE, EXCHANGED FORMAL
CALLS, REPORTELY THE FIRST INSTANCE OF THIS TYPE WITHIN THE ATTACHE
STRUCTURE. PRC ATTACHES HAVE PROVIDED SIGNIFICANT INFORMATION, SOME
OF HIGH VALUE, IN THE PAST. FUTURE POTENTIAL VALUE OF THIS RELATION-

SHIP WITH PRC ATTACHES IS HIGH, DUE TO STEADY GROWTH IN THE BILATERAL CONTACTS BETWEEN YUGOSLAVIA AND PRC. IN ADDITION TO ECONOMIC ACTIVITY, PARTY RELATIONSHIP HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED. THERE IS ALSO INCREASING EVIDENCE OF SOME MILITARY COOPERATION.

4. OUR CONTACTS IN THE PRC EMBASSY ARE LIMITED, AND WEIGHING THE RELEASE OF THESE PERSONAL OBSERVATIONS AGAINST THE ENHANCED RELATIONSHIP WITH THE PRC ATTACHES CONVINCES ME THAT THE EXCEPTION TO POLICY IS DEFINITELY JUSTIFIABLE.

5. REQUEST YOUR COOPERATION WITH DOD IN GRANTING THIS EXCEPTION.
EAGLEBURGER

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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Concepts: REPORTS, PROCUREMENT, MILITARY EXERCISES
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Draft Date: 24 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2875092
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EXERCISE BEREZINA
TAGS: MPOL, UR, US
To: STATE
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